Board Meeting: August 11, 2010

The Georgia State Board of Registration for Foresters held a meeting via conference call on Wednesday, August 11, 2010, at the Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia, for the purpose of conducting Board business.

The following Board members were present:

John Britt, Board Chairperson James Frederick Allen W. Dale Greene Leonard L. Kinsley John W. Mixon Anna Thomaston

Others present:

Tanja Battle, Executive Director JoAnne Sims, Board Support Specialist Janet Jackson, Assistant Attorney General (via conference call) Robert Hernandez, Investigations Jason O'Toole, Investigations

Chairperson Britt established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Britt called for any changes/revisions to the May 12, 2010 minutes.

A motion was made by Leonard Kinsley, seconded by Fred Allen, and the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes as presented.

Executive Director's Report

Tanja Battle welcomed Mr. Leonard Kinsely to the Board.

Applicants Licensed Since Last Review

The Board reviewed the following list of Registered Foresters licensed since the last Board meeting. A motion was made by Dale Greene, seconded by John Mixon, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the list as presented:

License #	Name	Issue Date	License Method
RF002876	Wachter, Mark S	5/12/2010	Examination
RF002877	Simon, Laurence John	6/14/2010	Examination
RF002878	Jarzyniecki, Randy Joseph	7/23/2010	Reciprocity

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RF002879 Seaman, Craig Hawkins 7/23/2010 Examin	nation
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Outsourced Forester Exam

John Mixon requested basic, non-identifying statistics from the first outsourced Forester examination, so he may present them at the Society of American Foresters Annual Meeting on August 23-24, 2010. For members' information, Tanja Battle advised that six (6) individuals took the State Law Examination, and four (4) individuals took the Certified Forester Examination. Both examinations resulted in a 50% pass rate.

Proposed Rule – Visiting Foresters

Chairperson Britt noted that this item is not yet at the point where it can be considered a proposed rule. Chairperson Britt advised members that he had undertaken some preliminary research regarding forestry audits conducted in Georgia. He looked at published information about auditors and checked license information, and was unable to find anybody who had performed audits who was registered. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by John Mixon, seconded by Leonard Kinsely, and the Board unanimously voted that Chairperson Britt communicate Georgia registration requirements with SFI and FSC.

New Business

Chairperson Britt spoke about the need for adequate evidence of CFE courses, which could include meeting agendas, dates, times and instructor information, or the SAF approval sheet. Discussion ensued.

Board Orders

A motion was made by Dale Greene, seconded by Fred Allen, and the Board voted unanimously to ratify the acceptance of a Voluntary Cease and Desist order for Alan Kennedy.

Election of Vice Chair

A motion was made by Chairperson Britt, seconded by Leonard Kinsley, and the Board voted unanimously to appoint Fred Allen as Vice Chair.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Dale Greene, seconded by Fred Allen, and the Board members present: Chairperson Britt, Leonard L. Kinsley, John W. Mixon and Anna Thomaston voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session, in accordance with O.C.G.A. 43-1-2(k) and 43-1-19(h) to receive the Attorney General's report, discuss investigative matters and application discussion.

Vote on Discussions from Executive Session

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Open Session was declared by Chairperson Britt.

A motion was made by Dale Greene, seconded by Fred Allen, and the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendations made in Executive Session.

The recommendations made in Executive Session are as follows:

OIG/Enforcement Cases

The Board heard a report on the following cases:

FOR10004: The Board voted unanimously to send a letter via certified mail stipulating that all reference to 'Registered Forester' be removed from websites, signage, and any other advertising or correspondence within thirty (30) days, and evidence of full compliance after that time may result in further sanctions.

FOR090003: The Board voted unanimously that Mr. Greene write to the Attorney General requesting an assessment of issues raised.

Applications

The Board voted unanimously to deny the following, based on an unaccredited degree:

Applicant # 1247441

The following applicants were approved to take the Examination:

Applicant # 1247295

Applicant # 1248897

Applicant # 1248896

Applicant # 1246014

Applicant # 1246263

Applicant # 1240203

Applicant # 1247437

Applicant # 1243301

Applicant # 1246017

Applicant # 1243293

The following applicant was approved for reinstatement of licensure:

Applicant # 289960

The following applicants were approved for licensure:

Applicant # 1202212

Applicant # 1102004

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The following applicant was approved for licensure, pending passage of the examination:

Applicant # 1234351

The following applicant was approved for licensure through endorsement:

Applicant # 1239252

The following applicant was denied:

Applicant # 1248851

Written Requests

Applicant # 291675: After reviewing correspondence requesting that the Board waive a deficiency of six (6) category 1 continuing education hours, the Board voted unanimously to approve the applicant's request based on the circumstances documented in the letter.

Open session was declared.

Other Business

John Mixon noticed some inconsistent in the wording of Rule 220-3-.05, paragraph (2)(b)(2). To insure language reflects recent CFE changes, staff was asked to identify rules that may require amending.

John Mixon noted that Georgia is the only state that requires continued education after a licensee reaches a certain age, and suggested that the issue be brought to the next meeting. A report of licensees over the age of 65 will be prepared to assist discussion.

With no other business for the Board to discuss, a motion was made by John Mixon, seconded by Dale Greene, and the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:49 a.m.

Minutes recorded by: JoAnne Sims, Board Support Specialist

Minutes Edited/Reviewed by: Tanja D. Battle, Executive Director